

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

A. Summary of the Amendments

The application now contains 22 claims.

The dependency of claim 2 has been changed. New claims 16 to 22 have been added.

It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added to the present application under the current amendment.

B. Statements of Rejection and Reply

Objections to the Claims

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1 – 15 on the grounds of obviousness or anticipation. The references relied upon by the Examiner are Eintracht et al. (US 6,687,878) and Rodkin et al. (US 6,092,074).

Independent claims 1, 13 and 15 recite a file that includes first and second sets of data, the first set causing the browser to display a document and the second set donating to the browser an annotation functionality via HTML manipulation.

None of the references cited by the Examiner disclose this feature. Specifically, Eintracht teaches the use of plug-in modules to provide the annotation function to a browser. However, the plug-in module is completely distinct from the file containing the data that causes the browser to display the document. Rodkin is similarly silent.

Accordingly, the prior art cited by the Examiner fails to anticipate or render obvious the subject matter of claims 1, 13 and 15. The same conclusion applies to claims 2 to 12 and 14 since those claims include the subject matter of one of the independent claims 1, 13 and 15.

New claims 19 and 21 recite a file with first set of data that causes the browser to display a representation of a document and a second set of data generated by DHTML manipulation. The second set of data can be displayed by the web browser as annotation to the fixed representation of the document. The prior art revealed by the Examiner is silent about this characteristic and for that reason the new claims 19 and 21 are deemed allowable. The same conclusion applies to claims 20 and 22 and depend upon claims 19 and 21, respectively.

Application No. 09/922,745
Reply to Office Action of August 25, 2004

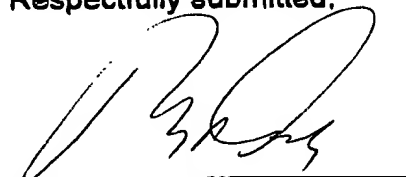
Patent
Attorney Docket No. 13742

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-22 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections and objections is requested. Allowance of claims 1-22 at an early date is solicited.

If the claims of the application are not considered to be in full condition for allowance, for any reason, the Applicant respectfully requests the constructive assistance and suggestions of the Examiner in drafting one or more acceptable claims or in making constructive suggestions so that the application can be placed in allowable condition as soon as possible and without the need for further proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,



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